

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Annual Report Federal Fiscal Year 2008 (Oct 1, 2007 – Sept 30, 2008)



Program History and Authority

- Congress created the WIC program in 1972 in response to studies showing that children failed to reach their full potential when they do not have enough nutritious foods to eat.
- The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has administered the WIC program since 1974.
- Federal Authority: 42 USC 1786 - Child Nutrition Act of 1966, Section 17 and Code of Federal Regulations - Chapter 7, Section 246

Federal Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Summary

USDA allocates WIC funding quarterly. Monthly expenses are paid from the quarterly allotments. Adjustments in the amount of funds available from USDA to Kansas WIC are made quarterly, based on actual expenditures for caseload and changes in food expenses.

Nutrition Services & Administration Funds...	\$13,544,363
Food Funds - General.....	\$34,167,663
Food Funds - Infant Formula Rebate.....	\$17,561,245
Total Funds.....	\$65,273,271

Note: The WIC program is 100% federally funded.

2008 Program Accomplishments

- Launched new customer service initiative that focuses on helping participants with the nutrition and health concerns that they are interested in rather than providing pre-selected information.
- All staff trained in Stages of Change counseling methods to assist participants in making healthy changes based on readiness to change.
- WIC resources including list of WIC clinics, nutrition education resources and policies are available on the WIC web site:
<http://www.kdheks.gov/nws-wic/index.html>
- Supplemental training for WIC staff and vendors is provided annually.

Program Description

- The WIC program provides nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion and support, conducts immunization screenings and appropriate referrals to address the WIC participant's need.
- The WIC program prescribes and pays for nutritious foods to supplement the diets of pregnant women, mothers who breastfeed for 1 year and mothers who formula feed for 6 months, infants and children up to their 5th birthday who qualify as "nutritionally at-risk" and meet Federal Poverty Guidelines. Program participants are reassessed every 6 months to determine eligibility status.
- WIC participants obtain their foods by redeeming food checks for specific items at local grocery stores.

WIC Program Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility criteria include:

- Categorical eligibility - pregnant, postpartum or breastfeeding woman; infant or child up to age five.
- Nutritional Risk - There are approximately 20 risk factors for each category of participant; some of these include inadequate weight gain during pregnancy, high weight gain during pregnancy, postpartum overweight, anemia, underweight (infants and children) overweight or at risk of overweight (children age 2-5), elevated blood lead levels, dental problems, breastfeeding complications, inappropriate use of bottles, failure to meet dietary guidelines.
- Income eligibility - documented 185% of the federal poverty level or already enrolled in Medicaid, SNAP (food stamps) or temporary assistance for needy families (TANF)
- Proof of Kansas residency - (proof could be a current bill with name and address on it)
- Proof of identity - (could be a state-issued identification card with name and photo on it)

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Summary Statistics and Data

- An average of 17,747 women, 18,863 infants and 36,629 children received services each month. Total Average: 76,239
- The percent of eligible women, infants and children (up to age 5), served by WIC is estimated to be 72.23%.
- Unduplicated number of WIC participants served in Calendar Year 2008 is 128,407
- WIC services are provided at 109 County Health Department clinic sites.
- WIC foods are available at 364 grocery stores.
- Average number in each family or economic unit is four.
- Average family annual income is \$19,225

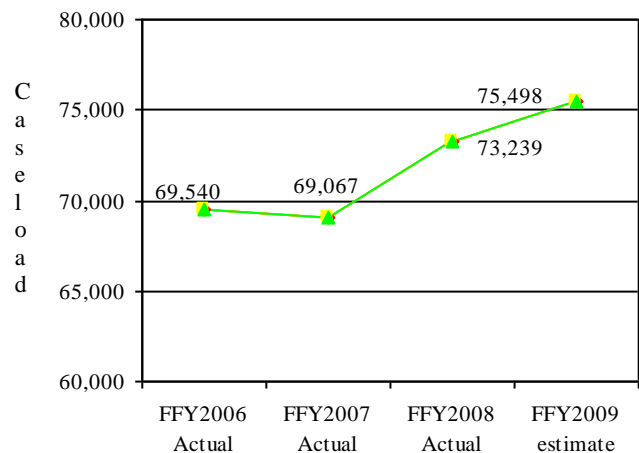
Breastfeeding Peer Counselors

19 Kansas counties have received WIC funds to provide peer counselor services to WIC participants who breastfeed their infants. Successful breastfeeding efforts depend on support and encouragement from home, extended family, workplace and from peers who have experience and training to share. Counselors have helped increase breastfeeding initiation and duration rates toward meeting the Healthy People 2010 breastfeeding goals.

Healthy People 2010 Goal	KS	U.S.
Increase breastfeeding to the early postpartum period to 75%	74.4%	73.8%
Increase breastfeeding at age 6 months to 50%	42.4%	41.5%
Increase breastfeeding at age 12 months to 25%	16.9%	20.9%
Increase exclusive breastfeeding at 3 months to 40%	30.0%	30.5%
Increase exclusive breastfeeding at age 6 months to 17%	9.2%	11.3%



Average Monthly Participants Served



Largest Kansas WIC Clinics in 2008

Agency	Number of Clients Receiving services	# of Checks Redeemed	Dollar value of food purchased
Sedgwick County	15,696	448,659	\$10,337,998
Wyandotte County	7,567	231,084	\$5,414,798
Johnson County	6,777	194,698	\$4,365,228
Shawnee County	5,682	161,625	\$3,578,088
Finney County	3,391	104,133	\$2,226,772
Saline County	3,007	84,079	\$1,999,471

Summary of Food Expenditures

Federal Fiscal Year	Total Food Expenditures	Average Benefit per Participant
2006	\$42,805,169	\$51.26
2007	\$45,042,602	\$54.33
2008	\$50,573,964	\$57.72
2009 est.	\$53,764,738	\$58.66